

Report to the Executive Member for Leisure and Community for Decision 02 September 2019

Portfolio: Leisure and Community

Subject: Community Fund Application – Friends Through Pain

Report of: Director of Leisure and Community

Corporate Priority: Leisure Opportunities for Health and Fun

Purpose:

This represents an application for funding under the Council's Community Fund Programme.

Executive Summary:

An application for Community Funding has been received from Friends Through Pain for the sum of £905.48 to purchase 2 laptops, 1 printer and 1 laminator, to enable the group to process grant applications, create presentations, produce their newsletter and promotional materials, and maintain accounts.

The group's current laptops were donated several years ago by Fareham Borough Council. Due to their age, and the limitations of the equipment, they are no longer fit for purpose. The group is requesting the replacement of both computers, as one is kept by their Treasurer for the accounts and the other is used for promotional purposes.

The group is a social support network for those in the Borough suffering persistent chronic pain brought on by a variety of medical conditions. They meet at Stubbington Baptist Church on a monthly basis, to hear information from speakers and enjoy social support, in addition to having the occasional day trip. The Founder represents the group through her voluntary work with Queen Alexandra Hospital and Southampton General Hospital by running workshops, increasing knowledge and providing an interface between medical professionals and patients with the challenge of chronic pain.

The group currently has 20 members, although many others benefit from the workshops. The workshops accommodate 20 people each time they are run, which is at least once per year on a needs basis.

The group's annual accounts at the close of September 2018 listed a balance of £2660.50.

Both Stubbington Ward Councillors, Councillor Forrest and Councillor Mrs Heneghan, are fully supportive of this application.

Recommendation:

That the application for £905.48 from Fareham Borough Council's Community Fund, submitted by Friends Through Pain, be approved.

Reason:

This application meets the agreed Community Fund criteria for financial support for community capital projects.

Cost of Proposals:

The total allocation towards this project will be £905.48 which can be met from within the existing budget for the Community Fund Programme.

Risk Assessment:

There are no identified risks associated with this report.